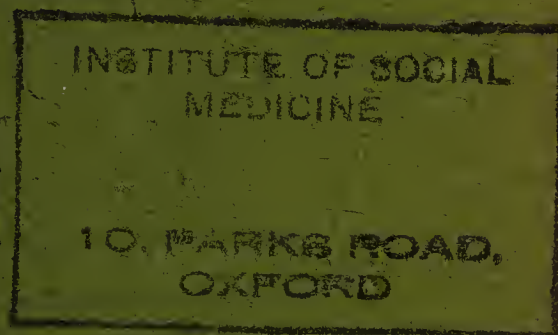
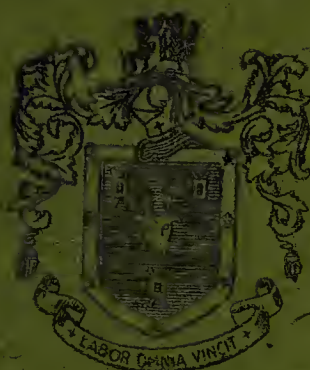


4/14/4.

375.

AL 44999  
TY BOROUGH OF WEST BROMWICH  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## School Health Service



# Report

of the

## School Medical Officer

for the Year

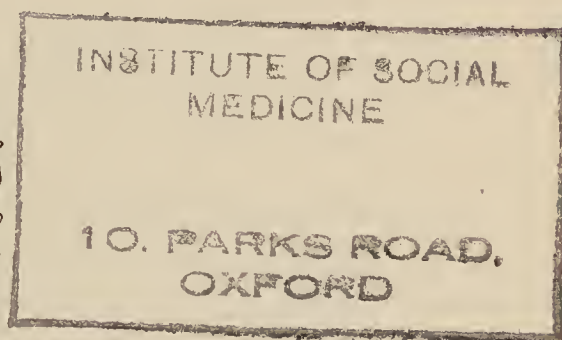
### 1947

J. TUDOR LEWIS, M.D., D.P.H.  
School Medical Officer.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST BROMWICH  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

School Health Service



**Report**  
of the  
**School Medical Officer**  
for the Year  
**1947**

J. TUDOR LEWIS, M.D., D.P.H.  
School Medical Officer.





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30259368>

**WEST BROMWICH EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**at 31st December, 1947.**

*Chairman* : Councillor A. Medley.

*Deputy Chairman* : Councillor A. E. Onions.

**SCHOOL HEALTH AND ATTENDANCE**  
**SUB-COMMITTEE.**

*Chairman* : Councillor Miss C. E. Hazel, J.P.

*Deputy Chairman* : Councillor Mrs. N. Sutton.

The Mayor, Alderman G. C. W.	Councillor A. E. Onions.
Jones, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. R. Parfitt.
Alderman Mrs. E. A. Smallman, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. G. Wilkes.
Councillor R. Bailey.	B. Smith, Esq.
Councillor Mrs. E. M. Carpenter.	G. H. Woodward, Esq.
Councillor Mrs. E. W. Grant.	Mrs. M. Sparrow.
Councillor A. Medley.	Miss G. West.

*Director of Education* : Leonard G. Rose, B.Sc.

**STAFF OF SCHOOL HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

*School Medical Officer* : J. Tudor Lewis, M.D., D.P.H.

*Deputy School Medical Officer* : Winifred N. Gibbs, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H. (till 8-2-47).

*Assistant School Medical Officer* : C. W. D. Cole, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P. (Senior Assistant S.M.O. from 1-5-47).

*Assistant School Medical Officer* : W. J. Morrissey, M.B., B.Ch.,  
D.P.H. (from 23-7-47).

*Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon* : Jane Parker-Smith, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.O.M.S.

*Consultant Aural Surgeon* : F. Brayshaw Gilhespy, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P.

*Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon* : J. B. Leather, M.A., F.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P.

### Dental Officers.

*Senior Dental Officer* : G. J. S. Littlefield, L.D.S. (from 1-8-47).

*Assistant Dental Officers* : A. H. Bosworth, L.D.S. (part-time till 7-6-47).

T. S. Holt, L.D.S. (from 23-6-47).

Elizabeth Linley, L.D.S. (part-time till 3-4-47).

W. R. Spooner, L.D.S. (till 31-5-47).

E. Sternbach, M.D., L.D.S. (from 9-6-47).

A. G. Walker, L.D.S., B.D.S. (part-time till 7-6-47).

### School Nurses.

Miss K. Perryer (Superintendent).

Miss M. E. Blakey.

Miss G. S. Gedrych.

Miss M. E. Greasley.

Miss I. John (from 5-5-47).

Miss E. J. M. Jones (from 6-5-47).

Miss M. E. Jones.

Miss E. King.

Mrs. C. Paskin.

Miss E. Fisher (temp. from 6-1-47).

### Clinic Nurses.

Miss N. M. Swinnerton (till 31-3-47).

Miss B. While.

Miss J. Collett (from 19-5-47).

### Clerks.

Mrs. D. Betts (till 28-2-47).

Miss G. E. Clark.

Miss B. Gorton (from 1-8-47).

Miss J. Garbett (temp. from 1-4-47—30-6-47).

### Clerks and Dental Attendants.

Miss M. Adams.

Miss S. E. Jesson.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

---

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the School Health Services for West Bromwich for the year 1947. It has been a year of no particularly outstanding feature, but one in which the work of the School Health Department has proceeded steadily. Doctor Gibbs resigned her appointment as Deputy School Medical Officer, and left on the 8th February. Doctor Cole succeeded Doctor Gibbs as Senior Assistant School Medical Officer from 1st May, and Doctor W. J. Morrissey was appointed Assistant School Medical Officer from the 23rd July. The medical staff was thereafter at full strength. The dental department, which had suffered considerable depletion of staff during the war years, was strengthened by the appointment of Mr. G. J. S. Littlefield, jointly with the Smethwick Education Authority, as Senior Dental Officer from August 1st; Mr. T. S. Holt was appointed Assistant Dental Officer from the 23rd June, and Mr. E. Sternbach as temporary Dental Officer from the 9th June. I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Dental Surgeons who gave part-time services to the department during the war years.

Full details of the year's work will be found in the body of the report so that here I need only comment on one or two main features. It will be noted that the nutrition of the school child appears to be reasonably satisfactory, although it is a little difficult to make a very accurate comparison of 1947 with the previous year. The provision of meals at school has continued, there being a substantial increase in the number of meals supplied. There was no outstanding incidence of infectious disease, and only 11 cases of diphtheria.



I would particularly refer to the separate report compiled by the Senior Dental Officer on the work of the Dental Department. There was much lee-way to be made up after the war years, and it is pleasing to note that good progress has already been made in this direction.

An important need in West Bromwich is a Child Guidance Clinic and an Open-Air School for delicate children. The premises of the Junior Practical School are not altogether satisfactory for a school for educationally subnormal children and this, in some cases, creates an unfavourable impression in the minds of the parents of the pupils.

I should like to thank all members of the School Health Department for their assistance throughout the year ; the Director of Education and his staff, and the Head Teachers of the schools for their help and co-operation in all matters relating to the health of the school child ; and the Chairman and members of the School Health and Attendances Sub-Committee for their unfailing courtesy and encouragement.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. TUDOR LEWIS,

June 1948.

*School Medical Officer.*



## SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL POPULATION

School Population, 1947 (Estimated)	13,000
No. of Primary Schools in the Borough .. ..	19
No. of Secondary Schools .. ..	6
No. of Junior Practical Schools .. ..	1
No. of Grammar Schools .. ..	1
No. of Art Schools .. ..	1
No. of Technical Colleges .. ..	1
No. of Secondary Technical Schools .. ..	1

## SCHOOL HYGIENE.

During 1947 the following hygienic improvements were carried out :—

1. The covering of Infants' Out-Offices at Hall Green Road School.
2. The heating of St. Michael's R.C. School by open fires was discontinued, as suspended gas heaters were installed by the Managers.

Consideration was given to improving the latrine accommodation at Beeches Road School, and plans and proposals for modernising the sanitary arrangements at this School were submitted to the Ministry of Education. These were approved, and it is hoped to carry out the work at an early date in 1948.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Full details of the work carried out will be found in the tables at the end of the report. In the following sections attention is drawn to the main items of interest or importance.

### (a) SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS. (See Table I).

A total of 3,744 children were inspected during the year, as compared with a total of 2,919 children in the previous year.

The total number of special inspections and re-inspections during 1947 was 3,182, compared with 3,867 in 1946.

(b) NUTRITION. (See Table II).

During 1947 a new method of recording the state of nutrition of school children was laid down by the Ministry of Education. Instead of the former classification of children into those whose nutrition was considered to be "Excellent," "Normal," "Slightly Sub-Normal," and "Bad," three classifications only were asked for, namely, "Good," "Fair" and "Poor." It is not possible, therefore, for there to be a very accurate comparison between the findings in 1947 and in previous years. Further information received from the Ministry of Education does enable some degree of comparison to be made. Those children formerly classified as "Excellent" should now be grouped as "Good," those formerly classified as "Normal" should now be classified as "Fair," while those formerly classified as "Slightly Sub-Normal" and "Bad" should now together be included under the category of "Poor." Reference to the table at the Appendix will give full details of the findings. It will be seen that of the 3,744 pupils inspected at routine medical inspections 68.59% had "Good" nutrition compared with 31.41% in 1946; 26.92% had "Fair" nutrition compared with 56.42% in 1946, and 4.49% had "Poor" nutrition compared with 12.15% in 1946.

Too much attention should not, I feel, be paid to categories "Good" and "Fair," having regard to the change of classifications in 1947. What is important is that 4.49% had "Poor" nutrition as compared with 12.15% in 1946. It may be thought that this is quite a good figure, and it is indeed one which does give a certain amount of satisfaction. It means, however, that there were 128 children amongst all those who were inspected whose nutrition was considered to be below normal. The nutrition of the school child cannot really be regarded as completely satisfactory until those in the "Poor" category are reduced to nil.

(c) INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

In 1947, 27,825 examinations for uncleanness were carried out by the school nurses, and of these 1,139 pupils were found to be infested with vermin. It was not necessary to institute proceedings under the Education Act in respect of any children during the year.

The problem of uncleanness in the schools is one difficult of complete solution, and it is only by the constant vigilance and regular examinations by the school nurses that the amount of infestation is kept to a minimum.

## (d) MINOR AILMENTS. (See Table III).

A total of 3,526 cases were treated for minor ailments, compared with 3,043 in the previous year. Only one case of ringworm of the scalp was encountered, but there were 35 cases of ringworm of the body. Scabies was diagnosed in 111 children. Minor eye conditions amounted to 150 cases.

## (e) DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINTS.

252 cases were examined for errors of refraction, and spectacles were prescribed in 196 cases, 181 having obtained them at the end of the year. Cases requiring operation or orthoptic treatment for squint were referred to the West Bromwich and District General Hospital, and the number of pupils so referred in 1947 was 59.

## (f) TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE NOSE AND THROAT.

The arrangements were continued as in previous years whereby children requiring treatment for nose and throat conditions were operated on at Hallam Hospital. 394 children were operated on for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis, and a total of 408 received treatment.

## (g) TREATMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Treatment was continued at Hallam Hospital on the usual lines, under the supervision of Mr. J. B. Leather.

Analysis of cases treated:—

	1946		1947	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
<i>Non-Tuberculous.</i>				
Number of cases .. ..	5	13	11	10
Number of consultations ..	9	27	6	24
Number of children in-patient	3	1	—	—
Number of children on massage	1	4	4	4
Number of attendances ..	20	87	14	70
Number of children X-rayed ..	—	3	—	1
Number of children fitted with appliances .. ..	4	10	4	7
Number of children in Woodlands or Forelands ..	3	1	2	—

*Summary of Work at Remedial Exercises Clinic.*

Number of sessions .. ..	134
Number of patients (Boys 22, Girls 40) .. ..	<del>62</del> 53
Number of attendances .. ..	1,051

1948  
B g.

2 2



*Tuberculous.**Out-patients.*

	<del>1947</del> 1946		<del>1947</del> 1948	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number of cases .. ..	4	2	3	2
Number of consultations ..	8	7	7	3
Number of children X-rayed ..	—	1	—	1
Number of children on massage	—	—	1	—
Number of children in-patient in Forelands and Wood- lands under arrangements made by Tuberculosis Com- mittee .. .. .	2	5	3	2
Number of children fitted with appliances .. .. .	—	—	1	1

*Treatment by Artificial Sunlight.*

The Ultra-Violet Light Clinics were continued during the year, the total number of school children treated numbered 191 and attendances 2,714, compared with 121 and 2,005 respectively in 1946.

**PROVISION OF MEALS IN SCHOOLS.**

The total number of meals served during the year (together with the figures for the preceding year) are as set out below :—

	1946	1947
Meals for payment .. .. .	507,632	626,938
Free meals .. .. .	53,770	58,341
Meals supplied to teachers and helpers	39,082	48,344
	<u>600,484</u>	<u>733,623</u>

The charge of fivepence per meal to scholars was maintained throughout the year under review.

During the year the erection of a combined Central and Canteen Kitchen at Hall Green Road School, to provide 500 meals daily, was completed and officially opened in January, 1948. To extend the dining facilities for Beeches Road and Fisher Street Schools, dining rooms were opened at St. Phillip's Church Schoolroom and the Fisher Street Adult Mission Hall respectively.



Consideration has been given to future developments during the course of the year, and proposals have been submitted to the Ministry of Education for :—

1. The erection of a Kitchen to provide 500 meals daily with adequate Dining Halls at Hamstead School — scheme approved in principle.
2. The erection of a Kitchen to provide 500 meals daily with adequate Dining Halls at Hill Top School — scheme not yet approved.

In 1946 proposals were submitted and approved for the erection of a Kitchen to provide 1,000 meals daily with adequate Dining Halls at Charlemont School. It was anticipated that this project would be completed in 1947, but the lack of progress since the application was forwarded to the Ministry of Works in January, 1947, has its origin in the acute shortage of building labour.

In addition, consideration has been given to extending dining facilities in various schools and schemes have been or will be submitted to the Ministry of Education in respect of the following :—

1. The erection of a servery and wash-up adjacent to the Junior Girls' Hall at Guns Village School.
2. The erection of a servery and scullery to the dining hut at All Saints' School.
3. The setting up of an additional dining-room for the Infants Department at Black Lake School.
4. The conversion of an existing class-room into a dining-room at Lyng School.

The scheme for the provision of free meals to necessitous pupils was continued during the year.

### **MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.**

During 1947 the number of one-third pint bottles of milk supplied free to pupils was 2,099,530.

In August, 1947, Ministry of Education Memorandum No. 238 was received, stating that in accordance with the Welfare Foods Scheme one pint of milk daily at a cost of 1½d. per pint would be available for children between the ages of 5 and 16 years who were unable by reason of disability of mind or body to attend school. The Education Committee made the necessary administrative arrangements to bring the scheme into operation.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### (a) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

150 children were immunised during the year, and a supplementary injection was given to 1,260. It is estimated that 85% of the school population is now protected against this disease.

### (b) INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The incidence of infectious diseases in the schools did not present any noticeable increase in 1947; although there was a slight increase in the number of cases of measles due to the epidemic in the early part of the year. There were only 11 cases of diphtheria compared with 14 in 1946. The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease encountered in the schools:—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>1st Qr.</i>	<i>2nd Qr.</i>	<i>3rd Qr.</i>	<i>4th Qr.</i>	<i>Total 1947</i>	<i>Total 1946</i>
Scarlet Fever	38	36	16	43	133	110
Diphtheria ..	4	4	2	1	11	14
Pneumonia ..	3	—	1	1	5	1
Whooping Cough ..	13	8	—	5	26	48
Measles ..	277	16	6	3	302	16
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	—	—	—	1	1	—

## MORTALITY IN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>No.</i>
T.B. Meningitis .. .. .	2
Appendicitis .. .. .	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .	1
Other Defined Diseases .. .. .	2
Road Accidents .. .. .	2
Accident (crushed by wall) .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	9

This compares with 12 deaths in 1946.

## HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

### (a) CATEGORIES OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

These are shown in the following table :—

<i>Category</i>	<i>In Special school</i>	<i>In main- tained school</i>	<i>In Inde- pendent school</i>	<i>Not at school.</i>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blind .. ..	3	—	1	1	5
Partially Sighted ..	1	—	—	—	1
Deaf .. ..	6	—	—	—	6
Partially Deaf ..	3	—	—	—	3
Delicate .. ..	2	94	1	3	100
Educationally Sub- normal .. ..	59	6	—	—	65
Epileptic .. ..	2	—	—	—	2
Maladjusted ..	1	1	2	—	4
Physically Handi- capped .. ..	6	50	—	6	62
Speech Defects ..	—	85	—	—	85
Multiple disabilities	2	5	—	—	7
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>340</b>

There is no open-air school for delicate children in West Bromwich, but we are fortunate in being able to arrange for a number of our cases to attend “The Hollies,” Smethwick. There is no doubt that in a town of this size, facilities should be available for open-air education for those children who are delicate or suffering from malnutrition or other diseases such as bronchitis, asthma and similar conditions.

The educationally sub-normal children are educated at the Junior Practical School, an account of the work of which is appended.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in dealing with maladjusted children, and for those in need of child guidance treatment to attend child guidance clinics. There is undoubtedly great need for child guidance facilities in this area, and it is hoped that in the not too distant future it may be possible to provide such a clinic to which children from West Bromwich could be referred.



(b) EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL AND MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.

Formal examinations were carried out in 38 cases ; 14 children were re-examined. The findings were as follows :

For notification under Section 57(3) of the Education Act, 1944, for the purpose of the Mental Deficiency Act :

Idiots	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Imbeciles	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Mental Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Educationally Subnormal :

To remain in special school	..	..	13
For stat. supervision on leaving school	..	..	1
For admission to Special School	..	..	7
For special education in ordinary school		..	3
Retarded : To continue in ordinary school	..	..	12
Normal : To continue in ordinary school	..	..	5
Maladjusted : To continue in ordinary school		..	1
For admission to special residential school	..	..	2

*Report on the Activities of the Junior Practical School.*

During the year the work of the Junior Practical School continued steadily. Early in the year there was one change in staff, the Handicraft Teacher retired and a Temporary Teacher was appointed in his place.

October 1st was a very important day in the life of the school. On that date the number of children on roll was increased to 60, and a Male Assistant Teacher joined the staff after having had considerable experience in Special Schools in Birmingham.

Reorganisation was now necessary, and instead of two mixed classes, as before, three classes were formed ; Senior Boys, Senior Girls, and Junior Mixed.

This has shown very beneficial results in both boys and girls, as each class has been able to undertake activities and interests which previously had not been practicable.



(c) SPEECH DEFECTS.

No facilities are available in West Bromwich for speech therapy. This is another important need which it seems should be provided.

(d) DEAF AND PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

An important part of the work of the school health service is the ascertainment of children who are deaf or partially deaf. So far as deaf children are concerned, little difficulty is experienced, as usually their disability is evident, but in the case of partially deaf children, particularly where a child is only very slightly deaf, great difficulty is experienced. The provision of an audiometer for the group testing of the children might be worth-while considering at a later date.

## SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

Report by Mr. G. J. S. Littlefield, L.D.S.

Senior Dental Officer.

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the School Dental Service for the year ending 31st December, 1947. It has been a difficult year, owing to several staff changes which caused a certain amount of disruption of routine inspection and treatment. From January to May, there was only one full-time officer and three part-time officers, giving approximately  $6\frac{1}{2}$  sessions per week. With a school population of approximately 13,000, it was inevitable that serious arrears of treatment accumulated. In June, two full-time officers were appointed and by the end of the year most of the arrears had been dealt with, but it was not possible to inspect every school in the twelve months. Approximately two-thirds of the school population were inspected, and of this number 57% were referred for treatment. This does not mean that the remaining 43% were dentally sound. Many were defective, but it was considered that the dental condition did not merit immediate treatment. This selective treatment policy has been adopted owing to staff shortage, and is in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Ministry of Education Circular 1523. The acceptance rate was 58%.

During the year five dentures were supplied to school children to replace front teeth which, through injury or gross caries, had had to be extracted.

In analysing the figures of the work done during the year, too much value must not be placed on the comparison with the figures for 1946. During the first nine months of that year the service was staffed entirely by part-time officers and for the full year the equivalent of only 1.3 full-time officers were employed. For 1947, this figure was 1.7, based on an average of 500 working sessions per officer per year.

	1946	1947
Average No. of Attendances per treatment session .. .. .	8.3	7.0
Average No. of Fillings per treatment session	4.2	3.2
Average No. of Extractions per treatment session .. .. .	6.4	6.4

A beginning has been made in the treatment of orthodontic defects. This is recognised as a specialist branch of dental surgery, since almost every case presents its own particular problems. Ill-advised treatment may well result in a worsening of the original irregularity so that at the moment and until greater experience has been gained, only simple and fairly straightforward cases are being treated. The more difficult ones requiring prolonged treatment and complicated corrective appliances for which there is neither the time available nor the necessary tools and equipment, are referred to the Orthodontic Department of the Birmingham Dental Hospital, to which I am much indebted for help and advice upon cases I have submitted to them. It would be of considerable value if the appointment could be made of a Consultant Orthodontist.

Expansion of the dental service is handicapped by the lack of suitable premises, the difficulty of obtaining Dental Officers, and shortage of equipment. Several items of our present equipment are unsuitable for the greater variety of work which is now undertaken at the clinics, and their replacement is desirable. The provision of a Dental X-Ray unit would greatly facilitate diagnosis not only in those cases where the cause of the dental condition is in doubt, but as an aid in determining the lines of treatment to be adopted in orthodontic cases. At present dental X-rays are taken on the large machine installed in Hallam Hospital, which is not very suitable for the purpose. Any patients requiring special X-ray photographs have to be sent to the Dental Hospital.

As a long term policy, consideration might also be given to the establishment of our own Dental Laboratory for the making of dentures and orthodontic appliances. The amount of denture work particularly is likely to increase in the future as a result of the operation of the National Health Service Act.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all Head Teachers, and the Medical, Nursing and Clerical staff for their help and co-operation during the year.



### SCHOOL CAMP.

The arrangement, commenced in 1946, for West Bromwich pupils to spend a period of two weeks at the Smethwick School Camp, Ribbesford, near Bewdley, was continued during the 1947 season.

During the period 19th September to 31st October, the Education Committee were permitted to send four parties of pupils (two parties of 60 girls, one party of 60 boys and one party of 47 boys).

### EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) EMPLOYED CHILDREN (12-14—31-3-47). (13-15 from 1-4-47).			
No. of Registrations :			
Delivery of Newspapers or Milk	70	3	73
Errands and light duties ..	15	—	15
Child performers.. ..	1	—	1
No. of Licences surrendered :			
Delivery of newspapers or milk	76	5	81
Errands and light duties ..	8	—	8
(b) STREET TRADING BY YOUNG PERSONS.			
Licences issued or surrendered..	—	—	—
(c) OFFENCES.			
No. employed without permits			11
No. employed outside permitted hours .. ..			2
No. employed under permitted age .. ..			5
No. of warning notices issued ..			36
No. of employers interviewed ..			5
(d) PROSECUTIONS .. ..			nil
(e) MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.			
No. submitted for examination			90
No. passed .. ..			77
No. failed.. ..			11
No. did not attend .. ..			2



## CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The number of parents attending routine medical inspections was 2,868, or 76·3% of the children examined.

Once again tribute must be paid to the Teachers and School Attendance Officers for the valuable assistance rendered to the Department.

Grateful thanks once more are recorded for the continued assistance rendered by the Poor Children's Welfare Society and the Rotary Club. Seven children were sent by the Society to the Southport Convalescent Home for periods of one to two months, and in addition 73 necessitous children were supplied with footwear. Under the arrangements made by the Rotary Club, 16 boys were sent to the Convalescent Home, Weston-super-Mare.

Valuable help was rendered to the Department by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children through the medium of Inspector Lewis.

On a number of occasions during the year the School Medical Officer was invited to address Parent-Teacher Associations at various schools. This is a very useful means of discussing with parents and teachers all children's health problems which they encounter. In all these discussions the School Medical Officer received considerable stimulus and help from both parents and teachers, and it is hoped that the information which he was able to give was of help to the school staff and the parents themselves.

It is hoped also that this means of maintaining contact between the staff of the school health service, the teachers in the schools and the parents will be continued, by arranging for periodic visits for members of the staff to discussion groups in the schools.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

TABLE I.

## MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

### A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

Entrants .. .. .	1,330
Second Age Group .. .. .	1,191
Third Age Group .. .. .	667
Total .. .. .	3,188
Number of other Periodic Inspections .. .. .	556
Grand Total .. .. .	3,744

### B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections .. .. .	1,649
Number of Re-Inspections .. .. .	1,533
Total .. .. .	3,182

### C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

<i>Group</i>	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA</i>	<i>Total individual pupils</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants .. .. .	5	193	197
Second Age Group .. .. .	48	88	124
Third Age Group .. .. .	44	37	78
Total (prescribed groups)	97	318	399
Other Periodic Inspections	16	45	54
Grand Total .. .. .	113	363	453

TABLE II.

## A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

<i>Defect or Disease</i>	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	<i>No. of defects</i>		<i>No. of defects</i>	
	<i>Requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin .. ..	50	8	250	5
Eyes—(a) Vision ..	113	13	24	—
(b) Squint ..	34	1	11	—
(c) Other ..	14	—	40	2
Ears—(a) Hearing..	2	9	2	4
(b) Otitis				
Media	12	5	37	3
(c) Other ..	2	4	41	10
Nose or Throat ..	154	154	75	39
Speech .. ..	3	7	2	3
Cervical Glands ..	—	19	3	17
Heart and Circulation	—	76	5	22
Lungs .. ..	29	92	7	53
Developmental—				
(a) Hernia ..	3	2	2	2
(b) Other.. ..	—	5	—	—
Orthopaedic—				
(a) Posture ..	21	24	—	1
(b) Flat foot ..	13	17	8	2
(c) Other.. ..	17	20	8	17
Nervous system—				
(a) Epilepsy ..	—	4	—	16
(b) Other.. ..	4	9	6	3
Psychological—				
(a) Development	—	14	—	3
(b) Stability ..	—	23	—	5
Other .. ..	15	64	163	165

TABLE II — *continued.*

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION  
OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE  
AGE GROUPS.

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>No. of Pupils In- spected</i>	<i>A. (Good)</i>		<i>B. (Fair)</i>		<i>C. (Poor)</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>% of col. 2</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>% of col. 2</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>% of col. 2</i>
(1) Entrants ..	(2) 1330	(3) 1008	(4) 75.79%	(5) 276	(6) 20.75%	(7) 46	(8) 3.46%
Second Age Group ..	1191	773	64.9%	370	31.07%	48	4.03%
Third Age Group ..	667	440	65.97%	194	29.08%	33	4.95%
Other Periodic Inspections	556	347	62.41%	168	30.22%	41	7.37%
Total ..	3744	2568	68.59%	1008	26.92%	168	4.49%



TABLE III.

## TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness,  
for which see Table V).

(a)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.	
SKIN—		
Ringworm—Scalp—		
(i) X-ray treatment .. ..	41	—
(ii) Other treatment .. ..	—	3
Ringworm—Body .. ..	35	10
Scabies .. ..	111	67
Impetigo .. ..	138	132
Other skin diseases .. ..	45	20
Eye Disease .. ..	150	166
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital).		
Ear Defects .. ..	63	105
Miscellaneous .. ..	2983	3149
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)		
Total .. ..	3526	3652

(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's  
minor ailments clinics .. ..

~~12,323~~

18,013

TABLE III—*continued*.

## GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

(excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—  
Group I).

				<i>No. of defects dealt with</i>
Errors of refraction (including squint)	..	..		252
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	252

No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed	..	..	..	..	196
(b) Obtained	..	..	..	..	181

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE  
AND THROAT.

				<i>Total number treated.</i>
Received operative treatment—				
(a) For adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	..			394
(b) For other nose and throat conditions	..			2
Received other forms of treatment	..	..		12
Total	..	..	..	408

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL  
DEFECTS.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	..	..	..	..	11
(b) No. treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out- patient departments	..	..	..		72

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND  
SPEECH THERAPY.

No. of pupils treated—

(a) Under Child Guidance arrangements	..			2
(b) Under Speech Therapy arrangements	..			—

•TABLE IV.

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—					
(a)	Periodic age groups	..	...	..	8,314
(b)	Specials	..	..	..	917
(c)	TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	..	..		<u>9,231</u>
Number found to require treatment					
		..	..		5,590
Number actually treated					
		..	..	..	2,917
Attendances made by pupils for treatment					
				..	5,274
Half-days devoted to :					
	(a) Inspection	..	..		51
	(b) Treatment	..	..		810
	Total (a) and (b)	..			<u>861</u>
Fillings :					
	Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	2,622
	Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	13
	Total	..	..		<u>2,635</u>
Extractions :					
	Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	599
	Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	4,619
	Total	..	..		<u>5,218</u>
Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction					
		..	..	..	1,274
Other Operations :					
	(a) Permanent Teeth	..			358
	(b) Temporary Teeth	..			144
	Total (a) and (b)	..			<u>502</u>



TABLE V.

## INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons .. .. .	27,825
(ii)	Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested .. .. .	1,139
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) .. .. .	—
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) .. .. .	—

TABLE VI.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF.

Names of Officers	Proportion of whole time (expressed as a per- centage) devoted to	
	School Health Ser.	Public Health
<i>School Medical Officer :</i>		
Dr. J. Tudor Lewis, M.D., D.P.H. . . . .	35%	65%
<i>Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :</i>		
Dr. C. W. D. Cole, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. . . . .	27%	73%
<i>Assistant School Medical Officer :</i>		
Dr. W. J. Morrissey, M.B., B. Ch., D.P.H. . . . . (from 23-7-47).	65%	35%
<i>Senior Dental Officer :</i>		
G. J. S. Littlefield, L.D.S. . . . (from 1-8-47)	50% West Brom. 50% Smethwick.	
<i>Assistant Dental Officers :</i>		
T. S. Holt, L.D.S. (from 23-6-47) . . . . .	100%	—
E. Sternbach, M.D., L.D.S. (from 9-6-47) . . . . .	100%	—

NURSES	Number of officers	Aggregate of time given to School Health Service work in terms of whole time Officers
School Nurses . .	12	5 2/11
District Nurses . .	—	—
Nursing Assistants	—	—
Dental Attendants	2	22/11







